

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 16911 01 OF 02 151809Z

41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 114955

R 151758Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3642

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 16911

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS SECDEF WASHDC, CINCEUR VAIHINGEN,
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG, USNMR SHAPE FOR GENERAL HAIG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, NATO, US, GW

SUBJECT: DIFFERENCES IN INTERPRETATION OF SCHLESINGER-
LEBER UNDERSTANDING ON BRIGADE 76 FUNDING

SUMMARY. AMERICAN MILITARY COMMANDS AND THE GERMAN
DEFENSE MINISTER DIFFER IN THEIR INTERPRETATION OF THE
UNDERSTANDING ON BRIGADE 76 REACHED BETWEEN SECRETARY
SCHLESINGER AND MINISTER LEBER IN THEIR CONVERSATION
ON SEPTEMBER 28. AMERICAN MILITARY COMMANDS BELIEVE
THAT THE GERMANS WILL REFUND THE PRE-FINANCING OF

BRIGADE 76 CONSTRUCTION. THE GERMANS BELIEVE IT WILL
BE DONE THROUGH NATO INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS. SOME
CLARIFICATION WILL BE NEEDED. END SUMMARY

1. GENERAL BLANCHARD, THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF
USAREUR, TOLD THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR LAST WEEK THAT
HE HAD BEEN GIVEN THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING OF THE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AND MINISTER
LEBER ON FINANCING OF BRIGADE 76:

A. UNOBLIGATED OFFSET FUNDS WOULD BE USED FOR
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BONN 16911 01 OF 02 151809Z

THE BREMERHAVEN REHABILITATION(NOT A LARGE SUM).

B. THE OTHER NEW CONSTRUCTION REQUIRED FOR THE
BRIGADE WOULD BE PRE-FINANCED FROM THE 300 MILLION
D-MARKS REMAINING UNOBLIGATED IN THE FUND.

C. MINISTER LEBER AGREED WITH SECRETARY
SCHLESINGER THAT ALL REPEAT ALL OF THE WORK FOR
BARRACKS REHABILITATION WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED AT
GERMAN EXPENSE.

2. AS THIS DIFFERED FROM AN EARLIER INTERPRETATION
THAT WE HAD RECEIVED INFORMALLY FROM THE GERMAN SIDE,
WE ASKED MR. STUETZLE OF THE DEFENSE MINISTRY FOR THE
PRECISE GERMAN VERSION. STUETZLE SAID THAT, ACCORDING
TO THE GERMAN RECORD, MINISTERS SCHLESINGER AND LEBER
AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING:

A. BOTH MINISTERS AGREED TO STUDY WHETHER THE
UNOBLIGATED FUNDS FROM THE 8TH OFFSET AGREEMENT COULD
BE USED TO PRE-FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION WORK NECESSARY
FOR HOUSING BRIGADE 76.

B. IT SHOULD BE A COMMON US-GERMAN GOAL TO
REFUND THE PRE-FINANCING OUT OF NATO INFRASTRUCTURE
FUNDS.

C. POINTS A AND B ARE BASED ON THE UNDERSTANDING
THAT THE OFFSET FUNDS INTENDED FOR THE REHABILITATION
OF AMERICAN BARRACKS WOULD ULTIMATELY BE AVAILABLE TO

NOTE BY OC/T: NVOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 16911 02 OF 02 151819Z

41
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 115062
R 151758Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3643

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 16911

EXDIS

THE FULL EXTENT FOR THE INTENDED PURPOSES.

3. STUETZLE SAID THAT THE GERMAN BELIEF THAT PRE-FINANCING SHOULD BE REFUNDED OUT OF NATO INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS GREW OUT OF THEIR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE US BRIGADE TO GERMANY WAS NOT A BILATERAL GERMAN-AMERICAN MATTER BUT A NATO MATTER.

4. DRAWING ON THE GERMAN NOTES OF THE SCHLESINGER-LEBER MEETING, STUETZLE RECALLED THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAD ASKED WHETHER THE CURRENT SPECIAL GERMAN CONSTRUCTION

PROGRAM COULD BE USED TO FINANCE BRIGADE 76 CONSTRUCTION. LEBER, ACCORDING TO THOSE NOTES, HAD REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NO MONEY AVAILABLE IN THAT CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM FOR THE MILITARY AREA EXCEPT FOR 380 MILLION D-MARKS FOR THE BUNDESWEHR. LEBER EXPRESSED THE FEAR THAT ANY EFFORT TO CHANGE THE USAGE OF THOSE FUNDS WOULD PROVOKE A DEBATE ON THE GERMAN DEFENSE BUDGET.

5. TO BUTTRESS HIS INTERPRETATION FURTHER, STUETZLE RECALLED (AGAIN READING FROM NOTES) THAT LEBER HAD SUGGESTED PRE-FINANCING OF BRIGADE 76 AND THAT, WHEN SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE BARRACKS REHABILITATION PROGRAM, LEBER HAD SAID THAT NATO SHOULD REFUND THE PRE-FINANCING.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BONN 16911 02 OF 02 151819Z

6. STUETZLE TOLD US THAT WHAT NOW CONCERNED THE GERMANS WAS THE QUESTION OF FUTURE PROCEDURE. HE SAID IT HAD BEEN AGREED THAT AN AMERICAN-GERMAN WORKING GROUP WOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH THIS QUESTION WITH THE GERMAN SIDE CHAIRED BY THE FINANCE MINISTER OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE. THE FRG HAS NOW ESTABLISHED SUCH A GROUP, WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. THE FRG IS NOT, HOWEVER, SURE ABOUT THE US PLANS FOR THIS WORKING GROUP. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WE WOULD QUICKLY DESIGNATE OUR PARTICIPATION.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: SINCE WE DO NOT HAVE THE FULL RECORD OF THE SCHLESINGER-LEBER CONVERSATIONS, ESPECIALLY THE PRIVATE TALKS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE

GUIDANCE AS TO WHAT WE SHOULD SAY TO STUETZLE AT THIS
POINT. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ABOUT OUR
INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE WORKING GROUP CITED BY
STUETZLE. FURTHER REQUEST THAT ALL REPEAT ALL MESSAGES
REGARDING BRIGADE 76 HENCEFORTH BE REPEATED TO THIS
EMLASSY.
HILLENBRAND

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, CONSTRUCTION, MILITARY BASES, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN16911
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750357-0928
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751053/aaaabupv.tel
Line Count: 176
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <28 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DIFFERENCES IN INTERPRETATION OF SCHLESINGER- LEBER UNDERSTANDING ON BRIGADE 76 FUNDING
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, US, GE, NATO, (SCHLESINGER, JAMES R), (LEBER, GEORG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006